

**MINUTES OF THE
PLANNING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 2008

At a meeting of the **Planning and Economic Development Committee**, held Tuesday, September 9, 2008, in the Board Room, on the 9th Floor of the Administration Building, Mount Clemens, the following members were present:

Vosburg-Chair, Brdak, Brown, Camphous-Peterson, DeSaele, Drolet, Duzyj,
Gielegthem, Mijac, Rengert and Roberts.

Absent and excused were DiMaria (funeral) and Haggerty.

There being a quorum of the committee present, Chair Vosburg called the meeting to order at 9:10 a.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

AGENDA

MOTION

A motion was made by Duzyj, supported by Rengert, to adopt the agenda, as presented.
The Motion Carried.

MINUTES

MOTION

A motion was made by Rengert, supported by Duzyj, to approve the June 10, 2008 minutes of this committee, as written. **The Motion Carried.**

PRESENTATION BY BURKARD INDUSTRIES, A MACOMB COUNTY PLANNING & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CLIENT

MOTION

A motion was made by Camphous-Peterson, supported by Duzyj, to receive and file the presentation by Burkard Industries, a Macomb County Planning & Economic Development client.

Ms. Dona Burkard from Burkard Industries gave a brief history of their company and spoke

about their future plans. They put in a military line this year and recently held an Open House which was well-received. Business is coming to their facility from other states, as well as from Canada. She brought a military part with her which was passed around; their chemical agent resistant coating was applied to it. They currently employ about 100 people and plan to go to three shifts because of their military line. They hope to hire about 30 more people. She is grateful for the Planning and Economic Development (PED) Department's assistance, as well as the assistance of PTAC.

After the presentation, numerous questions were directed to Ms. Burkard.

Ms. Lauren Royston from the PED Department handed out a brochure.

Chair Vosburg called for a vote on the motion and **The Motion Carried.**

PRESENTATION ON "THE AGING OF MACOMB COUNTY" STUDY

A copy of the PowerPoint presentation was distributed. Also distributed was a spiral bound binder entitled, The Aging of Macomb County - Phase I: Generating Awareness 08.

Mr. John Paul Rea gave a PowerPoint presentation. Key topics covered included: Existing Resources, Elder-Friendly Design, Service, Advocacy, Development & Engagement, Land Use & Housing, Mobility & the Transportation Network, Health Care, Personal Care & Wellness, and Closing Thoughts & Next Steps.

After the presentation, numerous questions were directed to Mr. Rea.

Commissioner Brown suggested that the PED Department inform commissioners as to when the presentation will be given to their local township boards, city offices, et cetera.

MOTION

A motion was made by DeSaele, supported by Rengert, to receive and file the presentation on "The Aging of Macomb County" Study. **The Motion Carried.**

UPDATE ON GRATIOT AVENUE ACCESS MANAGEMENT STUDY

A one-page handout was distributed.

Mr. John Crumm provided an update on the Gratiot Avenue Access Management Study. The first educational workshop was well-received. It was noted when MDOT looked at this project, only a portion of Gratiot was supposed to be looked at. Through countless negotiations and discussions they were able to expand the project. It now takes the entire Gratiot corridor from Eight Mile to the County border. It was decided to split the area using

Hall Road as a dividing line; communities North will work together and communities South will work together. The private consultant will work with both groups. The consultant, with the help of MDOT and the PED Department will put together a plan for the entire corridor. In October, they intend to host meetings in the North and South.

MOTION

A motion was made by Brdak, supported by Drolet, to receive and file the update on the Gratiot Avenue Access Management Study.

A brief discussion ensued with Mr. Crumm about looking at ways of connecting businesses through parking lots and the idea of using service drives.

Chair Vosburg called for a vote on the motion and **The Motion Carried.**

REAUTHORIZATION OF MACOMB HOME CONSORTIUM

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION – MOTION

A MOTION WAS MADE BY DeSAELE, SUPPORTED BY DUZYJ, TO RECOMMEND THAT THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS AUTHORIZE THE BOARD CHAIR TO EXECUTE THE INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT RENEWING THE MACOMB HOME CONSORTIUM IN 2009 AND BEYOND, AND TO SUBMIT THE AGREEMENT AND OTHER DOCUMENTATION IF REQUIRED BY HUD. **THE MOTION CARRIED.**

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Morandini provided an overview of the well-received program held yesterday on exporting called, American Manufacturing in Transition.

Mr. Cassin provided an update on the SPARC Program. He spoke about business retention, business attraction, and business expansion. The other component is business creation and that is where the SmartZone Defense Incubator comes into play. The facility will be located on 15 Mile Road. They plan to hold a walk-through for commissioners. He was advised that an additional \$250,000 is available to them to use for the Incubator/Smart Zone. He received a telephone call from U. S. Senator Stabenow about an earmark of \$400,000 to start up the facility.

MOTION

A motion was made by DeSaele, supported by Duzyj, to receive and file the departmental report from Mr. Stephen Cassin, Executive Director, Planning and Economic Development Department. **The Motion Carried.**

NEW BUSINESS

Chair Vosburg informed commissioners that Mr. Cassin made the final list for Automation Alley Member of the Year. The award announcement will be made this Friday.

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Vosburg adjourned the meeting at 10:20 a.m.

**Denise M. Jacks
Committee Reporter**